

Newsletter

Biloela State High School acknowledges the traditional Gangulu people on whose land it stands.

Issue 1

Biloela State High School

3rd February 2017



National Youth Science Forum (NYSF)

At the beginning of January, I attended the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) in Canberra. The NYSF is a 12 day forum that brings together 200 like-minded grade 12 students who are passionate about STEM. Throughout the duration of the forum, I was part of the physics group Wu, (named in honour of Chien-Shiung Wu who worked on the Manhattan Project). Our group visited a number of physics labs at the Australian National University where we were fortunate enough to view demonstrations involving lasers, high strength magnets and cryogenics. Other memorable NYSF highlights include a visit to the Mt Stromlo Observatory and the NASA Deep Space Communication Centre in Canberra; a videoconference linkup with Ralf Landua, who is working with the Large Hadron Collider in CERN, Switzerland; and an inspirational face-to-face presentation from Nobel Prize winner, Brian Schmidt.

Whether it be physics, chemistry, health science, engineering or environmental science, the forum not only offers a wonderful opportunity to explore your chosen field, but it also provides you with a number of networking opportunities. These opportunities allow you to make connections that can be crucial going into the future.

The NYSF isn't all lab visits and lectures, however. Much of your time is spent socialising and attending the abundance of activities that are organised for you on session. From science trivia to swing dancing, all of these activities help to cement the life-long friendships made during the NYSF.

For anyone interested in STEM, I would 100% recommend applying for this program. It was without a doubt the best two weeks of my life. The NYSF gives you access to once-in-a-lifetime opportunities and allows you to create a network of people who will stay with you for many years to come.

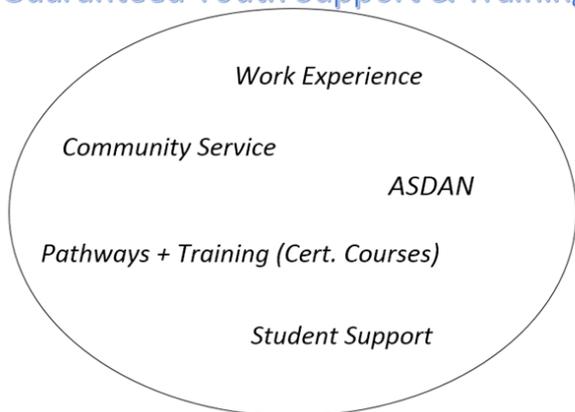
Thank you to Biloela State High School and Biloela Rotary for their support of my NYSF journey

Christina McLure



GYST

Guaranteed Youth Support & Training



Guaranteed Youth Support and Training

At Biloela State High School we aim to support students in achieving their goals by providing positive and rewarding educational opportunities for every learner.

To this end, Biloela State High School is offering the **GYST (Guaranteed Youth Support and Training) Program** for students from Year 9 who are focussed on entering the workforce. The GYST Program is designed to support students' learning so that they will remain positively engaged at school until the opportunity for an apprenticeship or full-time work becomes available.

In 2017, we are offering students in years 9 and 10 the chance to be a part of the GYST program.

Students who participated in this program last year have enjoyed the benefits of being able to access work experience, complete certificate courses, obtain their white cards, enjoyed hands on learning in a wide of settings while still being able to participate in school life.

If you would like to make further enquiries about the GYST Program, please contact Mrs Claire Larsen through the school office or via her email – clars31@eq.edu.au.



Important Dates

5 – 8 February	Year 11 Leadership Camp
8 February	Tutoring 3-4pm Library
9 February	Crazy Hat Day—JBOYS fundraiser
10 February	School Photo Day
13 February	Recognition Parade 10am Spaceframe
13 February	Lions Youth of the Year
13 February	P & C Annual General Meeting 7pm
14 February	Valentine's Day Student Council
17 February	GRIP Leadership

CHARACTER STRENGTH

Love and Zest

STUDENT DIARY TOPICS

Positive Family Teamwork &
Strong Brain Pathways

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Biloela State High School Students Feature in Australia Day Awards

I was very proud to attend this year's Australia Day Awards at Baralaba on behalf of the school. It was fantastic to see the following students and staff were nominated:

Annie Afleck - Nominated for Young Citizen of the Year Award

Olivia Brewer - Nominated for the Junior Cultural Award

Suzie Hutchings - Nominated for Young Citizen of the Year Award

Nigel Kruger (School Chaplain) - Nominated for Citizen of the Year Award



Emma Zillman - Winner of the Young Citizen of the Year Award
 Emma Zillman - Winner of the Junior Cultural Award
 Biloela State High School - Nominated for Community Group or Team Award

These very worthy people were recognised for their contributions, both to the school and our strong community. Well done.

Congratulations to JBOYS - Australia Day Award

It is not too often that you are excited when you are beaten for an award, however, we were delighted when Barbara Bryant and Tony Dunshea were recognised for their contribution to improved driver education for our young people. Barbara and Tony have created the charity **JBOYS** for this purpose following the tragic death of their son and Biloela State High School student leader, Jimmy Bryant in February last year. They were awarded the Australia Day Community Group or Team Award which is just recognition of their efforts.



Our school has chosen to support this charity with our first student council fundraiser of the year, our Crazy Hat Day on Thursday February 9 as we mark the first year on from Jimmy's death.

Setting up Great Routines for Learning

Students can get started on creating great futures at the beginning of every year by doing the following:

- **Bring** an "I can do it" attitude to school!
- Be **prepared** with a pencil case with all their equipment and use these tools to create organised notes in their new books - one for every class.
- **Eat** well, **sleep** well and get plenty of **exercise** - get to sleep at the same time so you get 9-10 hours' sleep!
- **Manage** screen time so they have a balanced lifestyle - too much of one thing is bad for everybody!

- Remember that the on-line world is not the real world, so be **mindful** not to believe everything you see.
- Create great **relationships** with friends and teachers and be willing to seek support when required.
- Consider coming to afternoon **tutoring** on a Wednesday afternoon until 4.00pm (starts next week).
- Having a time every night to complete **home learning**.

Welcome to a great year of fun learning at Biloela State High School!

Building Update

The foundations of C Block were removed over the holidays as well as some further asbestos removal which we were very pleased about. The central area of the school is now grassed with temporary paths which will be accessed by students from next week.

We are looking at developing plans for this "Central Park" area along with determining how we will replace the buildings and resources lost in last year's fire with the help from Building and Asset Services staff. This project is progressing as expected.

We thank our students who navigate around fenced off areas with great respect. Our students are fantastic!

John Adie
Principal

ICAS Competition

Nominations are now open for students who wish to participate in the *University of New South Wales ICAS Competitions*. Students can collect and return nomination forms from the school office. Please note that this competition is subsidised by the school and once you have nominated and paid competition papers are ordered. It is the student's responsibility to attend the competition on the competition date. Once you have entered no refunds are available.

ICAS Paper	Date	Cost*	Students to Pay
Science (Year 7-12)	Tuesday 30th May	\$9.90	\$7.00
Writing (Year 7-12)	Monday 12th June to Friday 16th June (one day this week)	\$19.80	\$10.00
English (Year 7-12)	Tuesday 1st August	\$9.90	\$7.00
Mathematics (Year 7-12)	Tuesday 15th August	\$9.90	\$7.00

Student Resource Scheme

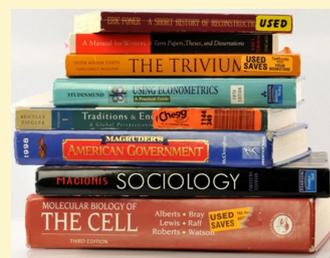
Are you wanting to be included in the Student Resource Scheme?

Have you returned your signed Resource Levy forms?

Students are unable to be assigned textbooks until these signed forms have been received by the school.

If you require a form or information please see the school office.

Invoices for school fees for Semester 1 will be issued shortly.



From the Deputies' Desks

Thank you to all the students and parents to have assisted in creating a great start to the New Year.

Year 11 students are already preparing for the first camp of the year at Emu Gully. They will be eating from ration packs and re-enacting portions of ANZAC campaigns while embracing the ANZAC spirit of mateship. Those students who do not attend the camp are required to attend school; in some instances some classes may be combined.

Ms. Surman is busily working to set up the work experience for year 10 students. All students must have their forms signed and returned by Friday February 10. This is an excellent way for students to engage with local community employers and begin to gain a better understanding of the various carer fields they might be interested in pursuing.

I am sure many of our year 12s are finding it hard to believe they are in their final year of schooling. Students are already looking forward to Valentine's Day songs and crazy hat day. Many students will also be participating in the GRIP Leadership day.

We encourage all senior students to find ways to be involved with their school and their community.

Subject changes will close on Friday February 10. The only changes after this date, made prior to the start of semester 2, will be those recommended by Head of Departments or Guidance Officer. Just a reminder that students must complete green subject selection forms and have them signed by subject Head of Department and their parents.

Student assessment planners will be handed out on parade in week 4.

This year the school will continue to run the GYST program as a combined year 9 and 10 class to assist students finding schooling difficult for a variety of reasons. This will be run by Mrs Claire Larsen and Ms Tamasin Roeger.

Susan Wayner
Deputy Principal

The holiday period has once again flown by and we find ourselves underway for 2017.

I would like to farewell the year 9s from 2016 who have now moved into the start of their Senior schooling with the change to year 10.

We also welcome our new group of year 7 students coming to us from Biloela State Primary, Thangool State School, Mount Murchison State School, Prospect Creek State School, Jambin State School, Goovigen State School, Redeemer Lutheran College and Saint Joseph's Primary. We are working hard to bring this group together for the first time in one school.

Year 7

I conducted a number of interviews for the enrolment of our year 7 students. Many parents indicated they were not yet allowing their son or daughter to use a mobile at school but were "reliably" informed by their child that they were the only one without a phone. Here are the facts at hand...of the 82 recorded interviews 26 families indicated their child was using a mobile phone with 56 not. The main reason being offered was they were waiting for their son or daughter to be older to be able to deal with the technology.

We have conducted an orientation process with the year 7 students through week 1 of the year but if you have any concerns about your son or daughter's transition to high school please contact me and we can discuss any issues.

One thing that students may struggle with over the coming weeks (Especially those coming from smaller schools) is the number of students, larger classes and trying to build new peer relationships. The year 7s will be attending a camp in week 6 of this term from Wednesday March 1 to Friday March 3. Students have been issued with an expression of interest to participate in this opportunity. If you have any queries about the camp or need support with payment options please contact the school ASAP so we can help.

Year 8

The year 8 students are also making their transition from year 7 to year 8. This will mean they will have different teachers as well as have the opportunity to attend class in rooms they may not have been to while in year 7. Please contact the school if you feel they are having issues with this transition to year 8.

Year 9

Our year 9 students move into their final year in the Junior Secondary School. This year they have the chance to demonstrate leadership skills for the younger year levels as well as prepare themselves academically for their graduation to the Senior school in 2018. I look forward to seeing what this group can do over the course of this year.

David Hall
Deputy Principal



School Uniforms

Do you have school uniforms that you no longer need and want to donate to the school?

We are seeking donations of school uniforms (shirts, shorts, jumpers, jackets).

Any donations can be dropped off at the school office.

BYOx (Bring Your Own Device) coming in 2017!!

Biloela State High School is now BYOx ready!! We will be introducing the program in Term 1, 2017.

Please visit our website for detailed information on the program including cost, device selection, and recommended specifications. <https://biloelashs.eq.edu.au/Facilities/Computersandtechnology/Pages/BYOx.aspx>

Once on board, students will be able to access the schools' network drives, printers, and the internet.

There will be parent information sessions in the coming weeks, as well as early in 2017.



Parents Supporting Quality Education Biloela High P&C

Email: pandc@biloelashs.eq.edu.au

AGM & GENERAL MEETING
Monday February 13 at 7pm

School Administration Building
All Welcome

Come along, be involved and make a difference.



Resource Centre News

Welcome back to another full-on school year!! Also a big 'welcome back' to Lorraine Head. Lorraine was here for many years before Brenda. Brenda is away on holidays until the start of Week 5, so I have very experienced and valuable help at this very busy time of the year!

Most students have their **textbooks** by now, and we encourage all to look after them for future years.

I have included a few reminders for all our borrowers:

Opening hours.

One of us is usually here from 7:30am or so, most mornings. If we are here, students are more than welcome to come in and get an early start with study, reading or assessment. The computers are also available. We are also open both breaks: from 11:40am in the first break, and for all of the Afternoon Tea break. After school, Monday - Thursday, one of us is usually here until 3:30-3:45pm. Again, students are more than welcome to come in and work.

Collections.

Our library consists of the usual non-fiction, fiction and encyclopedias. We also have magazines, easy readers, graphic novels and non-fiction and picture books available for students to borrow. DVDs, both movie and documentary are housed here, too, for class use.

Borrowing.

We do not have a limit to the number of items a student may borrow, but consideration of others is the key. Most fiction and non-fiction may be borrowed for 2 weeks. Some of our Reference books (eg encyclopedias) can be borrowed overnight only. Of course, if a student has overdue resources they are unable to borrow more until the overdue items are returned.

A few students have **resources out from last year**. They have been given printouts with costs as they have come to borrow their new texts. Students are also encouraged to look in their previous classrooms, and even here in the class set section in case we have made a mistake. If they are still outstanding, the costs will be added to your school account. Of course, they can be returned instead. Please contact the school if there are any issues around loans.

Throughout the year, our **new resources** will be on display at various places in the building, and we would encourage your students to borrow them out. We also have Scholastic **Book Club** catalogues throughout the year, and we welcome orders from home. Issue 1 is out now and orders are due to the office by Wednesday February 8.

We wish you all the very best for 2017.

Debbie Johnston and Lorraine Head (filling in for Brenda Banks)
Library Staff

INVOICE PAYMENTS

Any student with outstanding school fees are unable to attend any non curricular and extra curricular activities (eg: camps, sport, excursions).

There are a number of options for payment:

BPay - if you use this please be aware the amount paid will come off the oldest invoice on the system and from the oldest sibling. This is done automatically by the system. If you wish otherwise please advise the office.

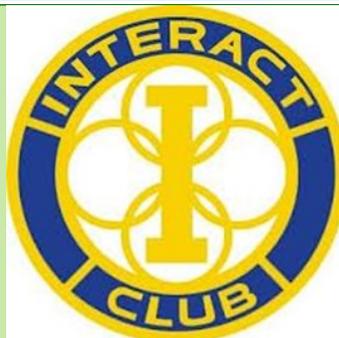
Direct Deposit—if you use this please ensure you put some sort of identification on the payment so we can deposit this amount to the correct account and student. If you want it to come off a specific account you will need to inform the school otherwise it will come off the oldest invoice on the system.

Cash payment at the school counter. We have EFTPOS available at the school.

Payment Plans can be arranged by making an appointment at the school office. All current payment plans need to be paid as per the signed agreement.

You can set up with your **bank a fortnightly direct deposit** so that the amount can be taken out and deposited into our account on a regular basis and helps spread the payments. Please ensure there is some notification with it to identify who is paying into our account. Please be aware if you want these amounts to come off specific students or accounts you need to notify the office. If not advised, we will take it off the oldest account.

We would like to advise parents that, should your student leave the school with outstanding debts, we will engage a state government approved debt collection agency. Our school relies on your support to provide enhanced learning outcomes for students.



Save the date!

29th July 2017

Christmas in July

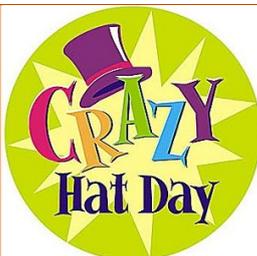
Biloela Civic Centre

Tables of 10

*Fun photos with Santa, Christmas stalls,
Entertainment and much more.*

The year's first Interact meeting will be this coming Tuesday where students will be busy organising this big event and also a Mother's day stall.

The Interact Committee complete three community service projects, one of which furthers international understanding and goodwill. Through these efforts, Interactors develop a network of friendships with locals and learn the importance of developing leadership skills and personal integrity demonstrating helpfulness and respect for others.



Crazy Hat Day

Thursday February 9, bring along your craziest hats and your gold coin donation to get



involved with a great cause. Biloela State High School and the JBoys organisation have teamed up to honour the fun-loving, mischievous memory of Jimmy Bryant. Jimmy was an outgoing young man that loved to get involved in the school spirit, so what better way to honour him then to get involved with a Free Hat Day (school uniform applies) for a gold coin donation.

Music and activities in the Space Frame will entertain you and wrist bands will be available for sale. All proceeds will be donated to the JBoys organisation, who have worked closely with the school to provide driver training for our senior students. Happy hat hunting!

